

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re REISSUE PATENT APPLICATION of

Atty. Ref: 36-1008

ATTWATER et al.

Reissue of Patent No. 5,940,793

Granted: August 17, 1999

For: **VOICE-OPERATED SERVICES**

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BOX REISSUE

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

August 16, 2001

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend the claims as follows.

12. (Amended) A telephone information apparatus comprising:
a telephone line connection;
a speech recogniser for recognising spoken words received via the telephone line
connection, by reference to recognition data representing a set of possible
utterances; and
means responsive to receipt via the telephone line connection of signals indicating the
origin [or destination] of a telephone call to access stored information identifying
a subset of the set of utterances and to restrict the recogniser operation to that
subset.

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15. (Amended) A telephone apparatus comprising:
a telephone line connection;
a speech recogniser for determining or verifying the identity of the speaker of spoken words received via the telephone line connection, by reference to recognition data corresponding to a set of possible speakers; and
means responsive to receipt via the telephone line connection of signals indicating the origin [or destination] of a telephone call to access stored information identifying a subset of the set of speakers and to restrict the recogniser operation to that subset.

17. (Amended) A telephone information apparatus comprising:
telephone line connection;
a speech recogniser for recognising spoken words received via the telephone line
connection, by reference to one of a plurality of stored sets of recognition data;
and
means responsive to receipt via the telephone line connection of signals indicating the
original or destination of a telephone call to access stored information
identifying one of the sets of recognition data and to supply this set to the
recogniser;

[A telephone information apparatus as in claim 16 in which] wherein the stored sets correspond to different languages or regional accents.

18. (Amended) A telephone information apparatus comprising:

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telephone line connection;

a speech recogniser for recognising spoken words received via the telephone line connection, by reference to one of a plurality of stored sets of recognition data;
and

means responsive to receipt via the telephone line connection of signals indicating the original or destination of a telephone call to access stored information identifying one of the sets of recognition data and to supply this set to the recogniser;

[A telephone information apparatus as in claim 16 in which] wherein at least two of the sets correspond to the characteristics of different types of telephone apparatus.

Please add the following new claims.

38. (New) A telephone information apparatus comprising:

a telephone line connection;

a speech recogniser for recognising spoken words received via the telephone line connection, by reference to recognition data representing a set of possible utterances; and

means responsive to receipt via the telephone line connection of signals indicating the destination of a telephone call to access stored information identifying a subset of the set of utterances and to restrict the recogniser operation to that subset.

39. (New) Apparatus as in claim 38, in which the apparatus includes:

a store containing recognition data for all words of the sets, and

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the control means is operable to mark in the recognition data store those items of data therein which correspond to the words not in the subset or those which correspond to words which are in the subset,
whereby the recognition means may ignore all words so marked or, respectively, not marked.

40. (New) Apparatus as in claim 38, in which: the control means is operable to generate recognition data for each word of the subset.

41. (New) A telephone apparatus comprising:
a telephone line connection;
a speech recogniser for determining or verifying the identity of the speaker of spoken words received via the telephone line connection, by reference to recognition data corresponding to a set of possible speakers; and
means responsive to receipt via the telephone line connection of signals indicating the destination of a telephone call to access stored information identifying a subset of the set of speakers and to restrict the recogniser operation to that subset.

42. (New) A telephone information apparatus comprising:
telephone line connection;
a speech recogniser for recognising spoken words received via the telephone line connection, by reference to one of a plurality of stored sets of recognition data;
and

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means responsive to receipt via the telephone line connection of signals indicating the destination of a telephone call to access stored information identifying one of the sets of recognition data and to supply this set to the recogniser.

43. (New) A telephone information apparatus as in claim 42 in which the stored sets correspond to different languages or regional accents.

44. (New) A telephone information apparatus as in claim 42 in which at least two of the sets correspond to the characteristics of different types of telephone apparatus.

45. (New) A telephone information apparatus as in claim 42 in which one of the sets corresponds to the characteristics of a mobile telephone channel.

46. (New) A method comprising:
recognizing received spoken words by reference to recognition data representing a set of possible utterances; and
responsive to receipt of signals indicating the origin of the spoken words, accessing stored information identifying a subset of the set of utterances and restricting the recognizing operation to that subset.

47. (New) A method comprising:
determining or verifying the identity of the speaker of received spoken words by reference to recognition data corresponding to a set of possible speakers; and

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responsive to receipt of signals indicating the origin of the spoken words, accessing stored information identifying a subset of the set of speakers and restricting the recognizing operation to that subset.

48. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a speech recognizer for recognizing received spoken words by reference to recognition data representing a set of possible utterances; and
means responsive to receipt of signals indicating the origin of the spoken words to access stored information identifying a subset of the set of utterances and to restrict the recognizer operation to that subset.

49. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a speech recognizer for determining or verifying the identity of the speaker of received spoken words by reference to recognition data corresponding to a set of possible speakers; and

means responsive to receipt via of signals indicating the origin of said spoken words to access stored information identifying a subset of the set of speakers and to restrict the recognizer operation to that subset.

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REMARKS

Please enter the amendments prior to examination. As evident from the presentation of claims 46-49, Applicant hereby indicates an intent to broaden the claims in the subject reissue application. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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STATUS OF CLAIMS AND SUPPORT FOR CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.173(c), (a) the status of claim 16 is canceled, (b) the status of each of claims 1-15 and 17-37 of original U.S. Patent No. 5,940,793 (hereinafter the U.S. '793 patent) is pending, and (c) the status of each of (newly added) reissue claims 38-49 is pending, as of the date of the preliminary amendment filed concurrently herewith in this reissue application.

Support in the disclosure for the amendments to claims 12, 15, 17 and 18 and new claims 46-49 can be found, for example, on col. 2, lines 39-67, col. 8, line 64 to col. 9, line 10 and col. 12, line 50 to col. 13, line 13 of the U.S. '793 patent. Support in

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the disclosure for new claims 38-45 can be found, for example, on col. 2, lines 39-67
and col. 10, lines 28-45 of the U.S. '793 patent.

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